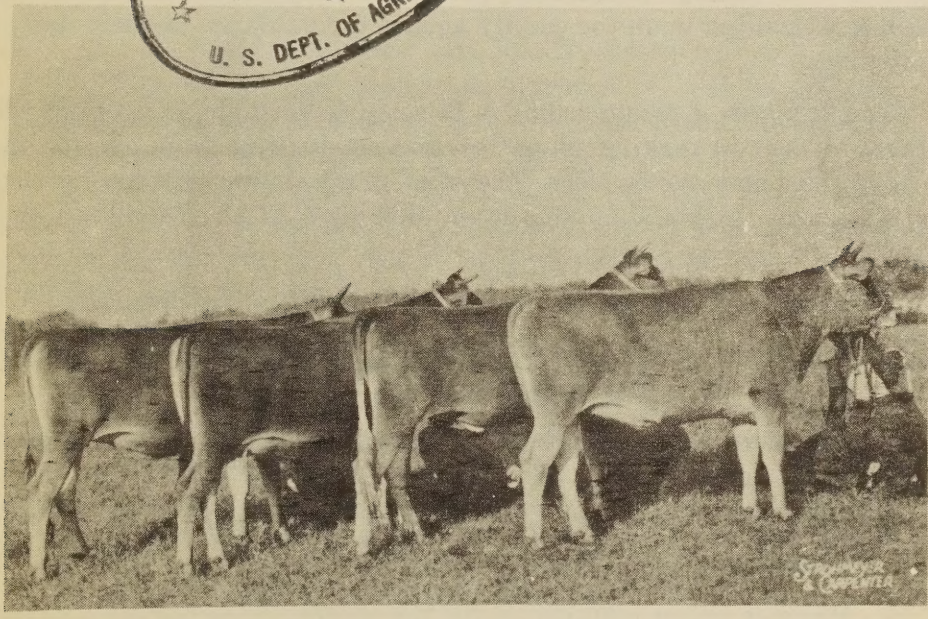
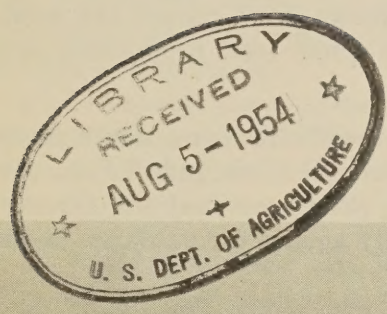


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# Planning Local Dairy Cattle Shows For Negroes



INV. '60

## FOREWORD

Dairy Shows in North Carolina have contributed greatly to the progress being made in dairying throughout the State. Hundreds of 4-H Club and N.F.A. members are engaged in the growing out of heifer calves for dairy shows that will play an important role in North Carolina's future milk production. They are stimulating not only a greater interest in the care and management of the dairy project, but greater interest in all the dairy problems on the home farm.

Entering calves in the show-ring with other animals of superior quality have influenced many boys and girls to persuade their parents to purchase calves that possess more dairy type and quality for the next show, which will aid greatly in the elevation of future production. Poorly fitted, calves that resulted from inferior feeding programs, exhibited at these shows have caused the exhibitors to take a more active interest in their feed production program at home.

The shows are also having their effects on adult farmers. The well selected and well developed 4-H Club and N.F.A. calves have grown into such superior milk producers that the farmer is more and more calling upon the county agents for guidance in their dairy programs.

The purpose of this circular is to serve as a guide to agents and farm leaders in making plans for and conducting dairy shows on community and county basis. The small dairy shows within a county should serve to assist in the accomplishment of the following objectives:

1. Reach more people in the county with the show program.
2. Get better quality dairy cattle to the district and state shows by exhibiting the county winners there.
3. Get better fitted and better trained calves to the district and state shows.
4. Get better trained boys and girls in the show-ring at the district and state level.
5. Furnish better inspiration for the spectating public, as a basis for getting more dairy animals of high type and quality in the farm herds and to serve as family cows.



# X Planning Local Dairy Cattle Shows For Negroes X

By

R. L. Wynn

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To make adequate preparation for a Dairy Cattle Show, a great deal of time and hard work must be allotted for the job. It is very easy to allow time to slip by and wait until a few days before the show to start making plans. This is especially true in developing a neighborhood, community, or county show. As a result of such negligence, many times one fails to arouse the degree of interest and enthusiasm among the people, which is necessary for putting over the educational aims and objectives of the program to as wide an area as should be.

First of all, determine the purpose of the show. Be sure that you clearly understand it yourself. Then, try and sell the idea to your leaders and be sure that they recognize the needs of such a program and are both able and willing to sell the ideas to others.

## DETERMINING THE PARTICIPANT

After determining the needs and purpose of such a program, then, determine who or what groups will participate. In some instances, it may be quite appropriate to make it a 4-H and/or N.F.A. program, others, and older youth program, and in all cases where practical, the farm agent and other agricultural workers should agree on objectives. The idea of who should participate, and to what extent, should also be made clear and agreed upon by your local leaders.

## DETERMINING THE LOCATION

At this point, the agent and teachers should determine, with the leaders, where the animals are that will be used in the program. On the basis of their location, together with the convenience of the various farm families in the area to be covered by the program, select the place to hold the show.

## SELECTING THE ANIMALS

The next step should be to select the animals to be shown. The show or program objectives should include feeding, care, and management as well as fitting, training and showing the animals. Therefore, if all the needed educational values are to come out of



the program, the animals must be selected ten or twelve weeks before the day of the exhibition. Be sure the animals selected are well grown for their ages. Select those with large barrels, straight top lines and good dairy type if possible. In the event that such animals are not available, get the best in the neighborhood.

### FEEDING

An excellent fitting ration for this period is: good grazing or high quality hay, together with a grain mixture consisting of equal parts by weight, of ground oats, wheat bran and corn meal. A little linseed oil meal added to the mixture will add somewhat to the gloss of the coat of the animal. The amount of the mixture to



A good dairy cow has external features that suggest her ability to convert her feed into milk.

feed will depend upon the size, and condition of the particular animal to be fitted. Feed just enough grain to keep the animal in good condition; do not try to fatten the animals; if they are thin at the beginning of the fitting period, the amount of corn meal being fed should be increased, decreasing it again when the desired amount of flesh is secured.

### FITTING AND TRAINING

The training should begin with the fitting period. All animals should be taught to lead and stand squarely on their feet. Put a



halter on the animal and lead it a little each day. The remainder of the steps in the fitting and training program are contained in your *4-H Dairy Calf Club Manual*, (Club Series No. 12.).

### KEEPING PROGRAM BEFORE PEOPLE

We should keep in mind that throughout the fitting and training period, the agent and local leaders must constantly keep the idea, date, place and purpose of the program before the people throughout the neighborhood, community or county. It adds to the interest when prizes are worked up and announced with an explanation as to the grounds on which they can be won. Make sure that a real effort is made to get all rural people possible out to the program, whether they own a cow or not. This should include all youth and adults living in the rural area that the participants represent. A day or two before the exhibition, each exhibitor should be contacted personally to find if there are unexpected problems confronting any of them that you can assist in solving. While at the home solicit the attendance of each member of the family. Ask them to see that all their neighbors attend.

### JUDGES

On the day of the show, the agent should have on hand, competent judges. As for a source of good judges, one may consider some local dairyman, the vocational agricultural teacher, or the near by county agents. Where possible, have home agent, and a representative from the State office present at the show.

### POINTS TO STRESS

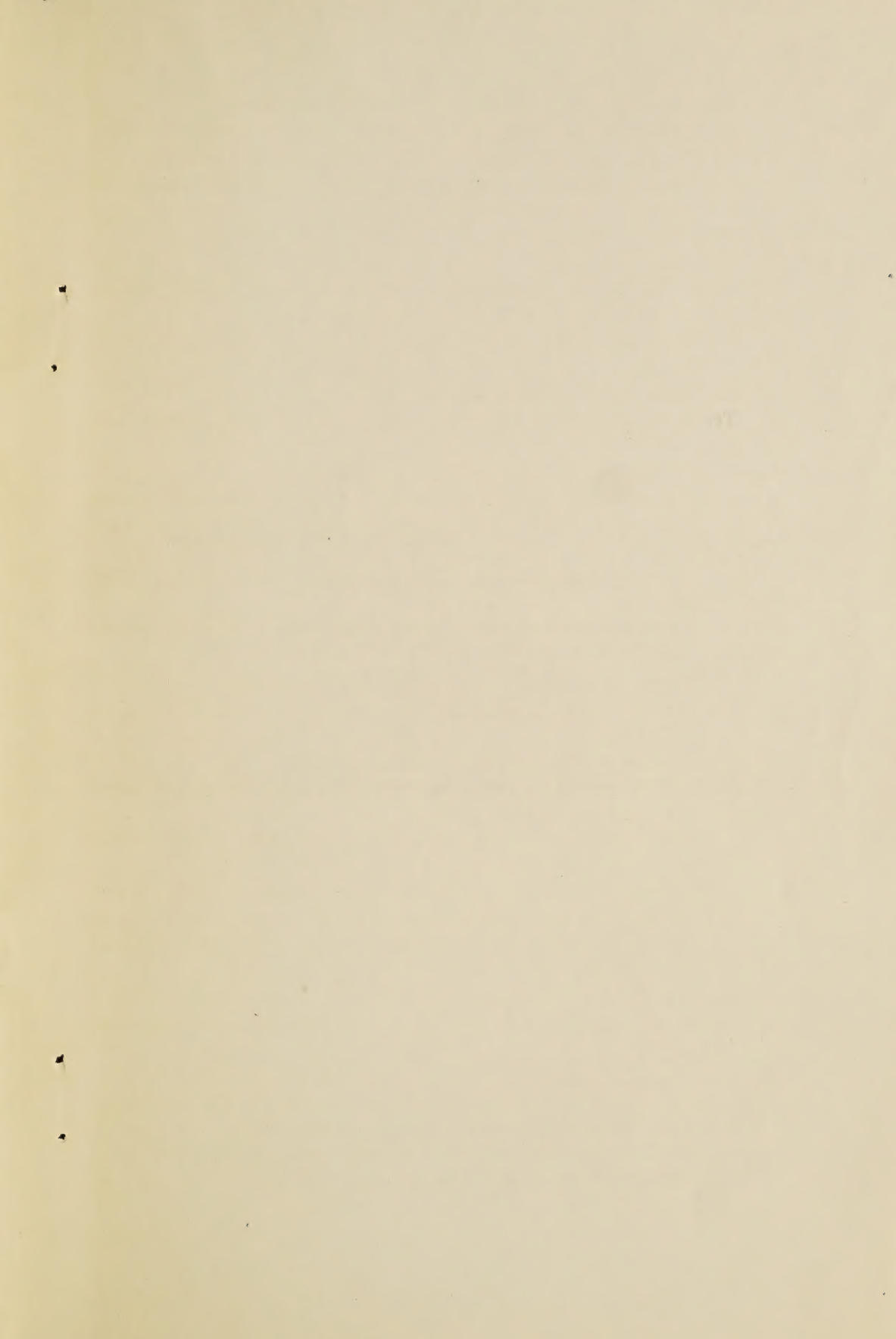
Before the program, one of the judges should take a cow in the ring where he can be seen by everyone present and again, explain briefly the purpose of the event, what procedure will be followed in the judging and what the judges will be looking for in each animal exhibited. The following considerations should be explained to the audience at this point, using the animal in the ring to demonstrate what is meant by each:

1. **Head should be medium size**, broad between eyes, muzzle broad, with wide nostril and muscular lips.
2. **Neck thin**, rather long, with clean throat, neatly joined to head and shoulders.
3. **Shoulders light**, good distance through from point to point, but thin at withers, chest deep and full between and just above forelegs.
4. **Ribs amply sprung wide apart**, giving wedge shape, with deep, large abdomen, firmly held up, with strong muscular development.

5. **Back straight and strong; loins broad and strong.**
6. **Rump long to tail setting, and level from hip bones to rump.**
7. **Thighs flat and wide apart, giving ample room for udder.**
8. **Legs proportionate to size and of fine quality, well apart and not weaving across when walking.**
9. **Hide loose and mellow.**
10. **Tail long and thin.**
11. **Udder large size, flexible and not fleshy, teats widely spaced and not deeply cut up between teats.**
  - a. **Fore udder** full and rounded, running well forward of front teats.
  - b. **Rear udder** well out and up behind.
12. **Teats of good and uniform length and size, regularly and squarely placed.**
13. **Milk veins large, long, crooked and elastic.**
  - a. Mature Jersey cow should weigh from 800 to 1200 pounds
  - b. Mature Guernsey cow should weigh from 900 to 1400 pounds
  - c. Mature Holstein cow should weigh from 1100 to 1700 pounds

When planning a local dairy cattle show the following points should be considered:

1. Determine the needs and purpose of the program
2. Determine what groups will participate (4-H, N.F.A., or Older Youth)
3. Determine where the show should be held
4. Select the animals for the show three months ahead and begin the fitting program
  - a. Good grazing or high quality hay should be available for the animal at all times
  - b. A grain mixture of equal parts by weight of corn meal, ground oats and wheat bran should be supplied in such amount that the animal will be brought to and kept in good flesh; not fat
5. Lead animal a little each day
6. Wash and blanket the animal at least six weeks before the show
8. Clip the unblanketed parts one week before the show
9. Arrive at show in time to clean-up animal, put finishing touches on the horns, hoofs and clipping.
10. Feed and water your animal before going into the show ring, using the feed and water containers that have been used at home.





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